

Appln. No. 09/913,771
Response A dated May 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action of February 19, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-16 are hereby cancelled. Claim 17 are amended to indicate the conductive composition is combined in an extruder and that the process involves extruding a mixture of components. Support for this amendment can be found on the second full paragraph of page 8, second sentence. The term "thermoplastic polymer" is replaced with the term "thermoplastic additive." This is done to make sure that the specification and claims are in clear agreement. Support for this amendment can be found from page 5 at last paragraph to the first paragraph of page 7. Claim 17 is further amended to indicate that the amount of lubricant present is from 1 to 10 weight percent based on the total weight of the thermoplastic additive, carbon black and lubricant. Support for this can be found in the first full paragraph of page 8. Also, removed from Claim 17, is the language "an effective amount of referring to lubricant to enhance the electrical conductivity of the composition."

Claims 21 and 22 are cancelled and Claims 24-28 are cancelled. New Claims 31-36 are added. Claim 31 adds the limitation as to the amount of thermoplastic additive and carbon black present. Support for this amendment can be found on page 8, first full paragraph. Claim 32 claims a process for preparing a molding composition which comprises contacting one or more electrically conductive compositions according to Claim 17, one or more unsaturated thermosetting resins and one or more olefinically unsaturated monomers. Support for this amendment claim can be found on paragraph 1 of page 14 and last paragraph of page 11. Claim 33 is added which adds the limitation that the electrically conductive composition and unsaturated thermosetting resin are contacted in liquid form. Support for this amendment can be found on page 14, first paragraph. Claim 34 is added, which adds the limitation that the electrically conductive composition and unsaturated thermosetting resin are dissolved in olefinically unsaturated monomers prior to contacting. Support for this amendment is found on page 14, first paragraph. Claim 35 adds the limitation that the contacted solutions of electrically conductive compositions and unsaturated thermosetting resins are mixed after contacting. Support for this amendment can be found in paragraph 1 of page 14. Claim 36 is

UC17754-2

4

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added, which adds fillers and thickening agents are added after mixing the electrically conductive composition and unsaturated thermosetting resins. Support for this amendment can be found on page 14, first paragraph, and last sentence.

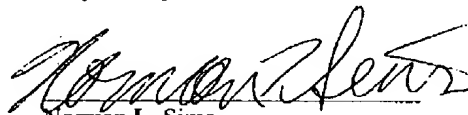
In view of the amendments to the claims, the 35 USC§ 112 Rejections are obviated.

Relative to the Rejection under 35 USC§ 102 and 103, the following remarks are relevant. The Applicant hereby traverses all of the rejections under 35 USC §102(a) and 103. None of the references teach preparing an electrically conductive composition comprising a melted thermoplastic polymer, carbon black and a lubricant in an extruder and extruding the mixture of components. More particularly, the references do not teach contacting the materials in melted form, wherein the lubricant is present and thereafter extruding the mixture.

Furthermore, European Patent 949633 cited in the Patent Cooperation Treaty phase at paragraph [0004] clearly indicates that most of the conductivity is lost if processed during extrusion. This reference clearly teaches away from the concept of making an electrically conductive composition using an extruder.

For the reasons stated here before, Applicant asserts that Claims 17-20, 23 and 29-36 are patentable under 35 USC§ 102 and 103. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments, reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments and arguments presented hereinafter and solicit early allowance of Claims 17-20, 23, and 29-36.

Respectfully submitted,



Norman L. Sims
Registration No. 30,685
Phone: 248/391-6455

P. O. Box 1967
Midland, MI 48641-1967

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UC17754-2

5